

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for the treatment of metanephric tissue for transplantation into a recipient comprising:

a. contacting said metanephric tissue, *in vitro*, with a growth factor-containing composition comprising ~~one or more growth factors for metanephric development~~ vascular endothelial growth factor; and

b. transplanting said metanephric tissue into said recipient.

2-3. (canceled)

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said metanephric tissue is contacted with said growth factor-containing composition for less than 8 hours.

5. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said metanephric tissue is contacted with said growth factor-containing composition for less than 2 hours.

6. (canceled)

7. (currently amended) A method for the treatment of metanephric tissue transplanted into a recipient comprising contacting said transplanted metanephric tissue with a growth factor-containing composition comprising ~~one or more growth factors for metanephric development~~ vascular endothelial growth factor, wherein said growth factor-containing composition is administered to said transplanted metanephric tissue at the time a ureteroureterostomy is performed.

8. (previously presented) The method of claim 22 wherein said growth factor-containing composition is administered to said metanephric tissue by an osmotic pump.

9. (currently amended) The method of claim 22 wherein said growth factor-containing composition is administered to said recipient in a manner such that said ~~one or more growth factors for metanephric development are~~ vascular endothelial growth factor is present in said recipient's blood that circulates through said metanephric tissue.

10-21. (canceled)

22. (currently amended) A method for the treatment of metanephric tissue comprising contacting said metanephric tissue, *in vivo*, with a growth factor-containing composition comprising ~~one or more growth factors for metanephric development~~ vascular endothelial growth factor at the time of or after ~~being said metanephric tissue is~~ transplanted into said recipient.

23-24 (canceled)

25. (currently amended) The method of claims 1, 7, ~~or~~ 22, 26, 29, or 30 wherein said contacted metanephric tissue develops into a functional chimeric kidney in said recipient and wherein the glomeruli of said functional chimeric kidney are vascularized primarily by said recipient and are able to filter plasma.

26. (new) A method for the treatment of metanephric tissue for transplantation into a recipient comprising:

a. contacting said metanephric tissue, *in vitro*, with a growth factor-containing composition comprising vitamin A; and

b. transplanting said metanephric tissue into said recipient.

27. (new) The method of claim 26 wherein said metanephric tissue is contacted with said growth factor-containing composition for less than 8 hours.

28. (new) The method of claim 26 wherein said metanephric tissue is contacted with said growth factor-containing composition for less than 2 hours.

29. (new) A method for the treatment of metanephric tissue transplanted into a recipient comprising contacting said transplanted metanephric tissue with a growth factor-containing composition comprising vitamin A, wherein said growth factor-containing composition is administered to said transplanted metanephric tissue at the time a ureteroureterostomy is performed.

30. (new) A method for the treatment of metanephric tissue comprising contacting said metanephric tissue, *in vivo*, with a growth factor-containing composition comprising vitamin A at the time of or after said metanephric tissue is transplanted into said recipient.

31. (new) The method of claim 30 wherein said growth factor-containing composition is administered to said metanephric tissue by an osmotic pump.

32. (new) The method of claim 30 wherein said growth factor-containing composition is administered to said recipient in a manner such that said vitamin A is present in said recipient's blood that circulates through said metanephric tissue.